

Taking My Walrus For A Walk

The Composer

Dan Adams is currently Band and Orchestra director at Wooster High School and Instrumental Music Coordinator for the Wooster City Schools in Wooster, Ohio. He received a Bachelor of Music Education degree from The Ohio State University and a Master of Music in Band Conducting from Northwestern University where he studied with John Paynter. Adams is active as an adjudicator, brass musician, and conductor. Memberships include the Ohio Music Education Association, ASCAP, College Band Directors National Association, and American Federation of Musicians Local 159.

Performance Suggestions

Consider having the trombone section stand and show off those slides, and make sure to emphasize the *glissando* with plenty of extra air. “Stomp foot lightly” requires lifting the entire foot – this may cause the students to sway slightly from side to side – this is fine and adds a nice effect. The challenge is to keep the “walk” from becoming a “run” at the end of the piece. Percussion parts are integral and should be played with the utmost confidence and a rather soloistic quality.

Program Notes

Taking My Walrus For A Walk was written for and dedicated to the 2001 Wooster City Schools All-City 6th Grade Band. It was intended as a way to spotlight a fine trombone section while at the same time provide interest throughout the rest of the band. With the performers providing the rhythmic paces, and the trombones setting the lumbering tone of the melody, the piece may bring to mind the unusual image of walking down the street with your pet walrus. Don't have one? Maybe you should...